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LETTER DATED 16 MARCH 1994 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TAJIKISTAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the communiqué adopted in Dushanbe on 15 March 1994 at the meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) L. KAYUMOV
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Communiqué adopted on 15 March 1994 at the meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation

On 14 and 15 March 1994, a meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan was held in Dushanbe. The meeting took place in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding and was conducted in a businesslike and constructive manner.

The Ministers noted that, as a result of the efforts of the leaders of Tajikistan, which were supported by friendly States and assisted by international organizations, a certain degree of social and political stabilization has been achieved in Tajikistan: the organs of State power are operating fully and the difficult process of rehabilitating the national economy is under way.

They approved the joint efforts of the countries members of the Commonwealth of Independent States - the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan - to safeguard the Tajik-Afghan border in accordance with the Treaty on Collective Security, signed at Tashkent on 15 May 1992. They also supported for the request, addressed to the President of the Security Council by the head of the Tajik State, Mr. Emomali Rakhmonov, that the collective peace-keeping forces in Tajikistan should be granted the status of a United Nations operation.

The Ministers expressed great concern at the continuing tension on the Tajik-Afghan border which, in their opinion, is destabilizing the situation in Tajikistan and the region and hindering the solution of the conflict in Tajikistan.

They supported the measures being taken by the leaders of Tajikistan to achieve a political settlement of the conflict, and expressed the hope that armed actions on the Tajik-Afghan border will be halted when negotiations are begun.

The Ministers expressed their great appreciation for the attention that the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, has given to the problems of Tajikistan, and for the efforts of his Special Envoy, Mr. Ramiro Piriz-Ballón, and of the Russian Federation to achieve a speedy settlement of the conflict in Tajikistan through political dialogue. They noted that the adoption of the new Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan and the holding of free elections will promote the rapid normalization of the situation in Tajikistan.

The Ministers expressed serious concern at the worsening situation in Afghanistan. They hope that all parties involved in the conflict will endeavour to find the political means for achieving national harmony and civil peace.

They stressed the need for close cooperation among their States with a view to expanding economic, cultural and other ties and strengthening the process of integration within the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The Ministers reaffirmed their readiness to promote progress in the development of relations between their States and contribute to the solution of complex problems of concern to their peoples, and agreed to hold regular political consultations.